

BJ 1581
.R38

Invincible Power



THE PRINCIPLES AND LAWS
THE GREATEST MEN

WHICH HAVE PRODUCED
THROUGH ALL THE AGES

JOHN HENRY REMMERS



Class B J 1581

Book . K 38

Copyright N^o _____

COPYRIGHT DEPOSIT.



John H. Pennington

INVINCIBLE POWER

By
JOHN HENRY REMMERS



5
3
2
1
0
7

CINCINNATI:
THE CO-OPERATIVE PUBLISHING CO.
PUBLISHERS

21/9 2 2 2

BJ1581
.R38

Copyright, 1922, by
THE CO-OPERATIVE PUBLISHING CO.
Cincinnati, Ohio

© Cl. A 653661

THE ABINGDON PRESS
Cincinnati

JAN 27 1922

ms 1

FOREWORD

I HAVE tasted the bitter cup of failure, despair, and misery. I have known the pangs of a breaking heart. I have lived intensely and I have learnt.

To-day I am Free, I am Happy, my soul is at Peace. I know no want, and I experience from time to time the fulfillment of all my reasonable desires.

I see on the rainbow trail many unhappy souls, and for these I have revealed those Principles and Laws which led me from darkness into Light. It is my great hope that through this work many will find THE LIGHTED WAY. With that in view I dedicate this volume to the memory of my mother.

THE AUTHOR.

“The sun rose; it rose upon no sadder sight than the man of good abilities, and good emotions, incapable of their direct exercise, incapable of his own help and his own happiness, sensible of the blight upon him, and resigning himself to let it eat him away.”

—*Dickens.*

“The ideal Life is in our blood and never will be still. We feel the thing we ought to be beating beneath the thing we are.”

—*Bishop Phillips Brooks.*

INVINCIBLE POWER

“Enter ye in at the strait gate, for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat.”

—*Christ.*

THE ELEMENT—RESISTANCE

To SUCCEED in life and to find happiness it is of vital importance first of all to comprehend and realize the element RESISTANCE. This element is always present, a part of the Divine plan, and no living thing can escape it. Its purpose is evolution: And in opposition to this element Resistance stands Aggressiveness. By the action of the two we have a result: either Failure or Success, according to the degree and nature of our Aggressiveness.

An individual governing himself by the laws of progress Aggressively meets Resistance with Wisdom and Strength, and by the very contact promotes the growth of his Personality—unfoldment of Power, Evolution, Success.

As you set into action the Instrument, Principles, Laws, etc., I have endeavored to make clear in this volume, you will meet, as you have in the past met, with this element Resistance; therefore it is most important that you now see this element in its true light and realize its vast importance in the great scheme of life.

To progress we must confront our problems or adverse conditions, and not avoid them. Man is inclined to sidestep Resistance, ever seeking and always failing to find a road of Non-resistance, which, he hopes, may lead to the realization of his dreams and desires.

Resistance is a part of the Great Plan, and there is nothing in existence which can progress without direct contact with this element.

The seed is placed in the ground, takes root, but must overcome by Aggressiveness, the Resistance of the ground covering it, to grow. If the acorn failed to function in Aggressiveness, there could be no more oaks.

Just so it has been from the beginning of time with every living thing.

The child in the mother's womb, making its first independent move for life, Aggressively attacks Resistance on its way to life.

A world without Resistance would not be worth living in. A life without Resistance becomes useless and worthless, because without Resistance there can be no Aggressiveness and consequently no Evolution.

Without the Resistance of the earth's atmosphere the sunlight would produce no

warmth, and there would be no life or vegetation, In short, without Resistance and Aggression the entire plan of the Universe would cease to function. Resistance and Aggression are prime factors in the Divine plan of progress, and therefore it is most important when progress is the aim of the individual that this truth be realized.

Resistance is perpetually present. You have from the beginning encountered Resistance and possessed just enough Aggressiveness to overcome it or you would not be alive to-day. To obey the constructive laws of life is to add to the Aggressiveness which is already yours. In this manner you rise above a certain realm of Resistance (like the seed conquering the resistance of the ground), from which point you will find less Resistance, because of the strength which has been added to your Aggressiveness by overcoming the first and most stubborn realm of Resistance. In other words, once you get above the ground (like the seed), your growth will meet with less Resistance, be easier, and more rapid. Therefore, the old saying, "Nothing succeeds like success."

It required many years for the sun's rays to penetrate the earth's atmosphere and produce the warmth necessary for the life and progress of all earthly things. But it

is here, nevertheless, *the preassumed result has been accomplished.* This is a tremendous example of Resistance, Aggression, and Result.

The same Divine Intelligence which has brought about life by the Resistance and Aggression of elements has also established that Resistance which confronts you; but the Divine has also implanted within you Aggressiveness for the sole purpose of evolution or self-development.

You are as much a part of the Great Plan as the sunlight, and the atmosphere which resists it. Always remember this.

The sunlight would be useless without the Resistance opposing it, and likewise it would be with your life or any other life; in fact, there could be no life at all without the elements Resistance and Aggression.

Try to imagine this world if everything that individuals desired were given them without the least effort on their part. Would you care living here if such were the case? Of course not. Neither would I.

Resistance exists everywhere, and the positive way to use this element for self-development is by applied Aggressiveness. And Aggressiveness becomes positive when actuated by those laws which are in harmony with the Divine plan and govern

progress. Resistance plus Aggressiveness develops Power of Personality.

If there were no Resistance there could be no progress. It is the element which should stimulate Aggressiveness, and Aggressiveness properly governed builds Success. Therefore you must set into action the Instrument, Principles, Laws, etc., which will govern your Aggressiveness in accordance with Wisdom and Strength, meeting Resistance as it comes, and by the very contact unfold the possibilities of your personality. In this manner you cannot fail, and what is more each new dawn will add to your realization and joy of being a living, breathing, intelligent part of a vast and wonderful plan.

THE INSTRUMENT—CONSCIENCE

WITHIN the soul of every man exists *Conscience*. It is that mysterious part of us which can be ignored but never destroyed. It is That which, if obeyed, will reveal those laws which positively and absolutely govern a successful life.

Those who hear the Voice of Conscience and live according to the principles which it reveals rise to the very heights of life, yea immortality.

There is no excuse for living an unhappy life, for, if we will but heed, Conscience is ever urging us to adopt those laws which will, without question, lead to success and happiness.

Destructive living is in direct opposition with the great plan of the Divine Intelligence, and Conscience was purposefully implanted in the soul of man, that try as he might he cannot destroy it. He may ignore it for a time, but Conscience is always present, either bringing the man to obey and rewarding him with happiness,

or punishing him for his continued disobedience.

Judas betrayed the Christ for thirty pieces of silver, then went and hanged himself. This man ignored his Conscience for a time, but he could not escape it, and his punishment was so severe that he sought relief in death. You cannot destroy Conscience, and for every disobedience you positively pay the inevitable price. Observe men closely, study their faces, look deep into their eyes; regardless as to who they may be, the story is told one way or another. In this manner you will find all the proof that your heart desires.

You yourself are aware that you possess a Conscience—you know it—but do you fully realize what that Conscience is?

That Conscience which you possess is the instrument of your Soul, through which you hear the voice Divine. That Voice which is ever and always calling to you to obey those laws which lead from Darkness into Light, from Misery to Happiness, from Failure to Success.

If you will but allow yourself to be guided by those laws, in harmony with the Divine plan, which govern progress, then, indeed, your personality will become magnificent. It will radiate with a light and warmth that men must see and feel. The

very ether about you then vibrates with power, you become a positive factor in a world of doubt, and men will eagerly place their trust in your hands; a Man among men, all material things shaping themselves for your welfare and happiness, because of your harmony with the Divine laws of Progress.

“The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light.”
—*Christ.*

Therefore, now fully realize the tremendous value of that wonderful Instrument, Conscience. And remember always that it is the most positive medium through which the Divine can commune with you and give to you **THAT WISDOM** which no earthly source can supply. Through Conscience you receive the light to understand those vital laws which will lead you on to a useful, progressive, successful, and happy life, such as the Divine Intelligence desires that you should live.

Read the first two chapters again. They are of vital importance, and open for you the gateway to a sphere of higher life.

“Let me to-night look back across the span
 ’Twixt dawn and dark and to my Conscience say
Because of some good act to beast or man
 The world is better that I lived to-day.”

TRUTH

OH, SAY, WHAT IS TRUTH?

Oh, say, what is truth? 'Tis the fairest gem
That riches of worlds can produce;
And priceless the value of truth will be when
The proud monarch's costliest diadem
Is counted but dross and refuse.

Then, say, what is truth? 'Tis the last and the first,
For the limits of time it steps o'er;
Though the heavens depart, and the earth's foun-
tains burst,
Truth, the sum of existence, will weather the worst,
Eternal, unchanged, evermore.

—*John Jacques.*

THE PRIME PRINCIPLE— TRUTH

"I am nothing, but truth is everything."—*A. Lincoln.*

"How happy is he born or taught
That serveth not another's will;
Whose armor is his honest thought,
And simple truth his utmost skill!

—*Sir Henry Wotton.*

TRUTH is the basic law of the universe. TRUTH is the Emancipator of the Soul. In other words, TRUTH makes the man free; ties which would otherwise bind him to all the false and destructive modes of life, by TRUTH are broken, he is no longer Slave but Master and in harmony with the fundamental principle of the Divine plan.

Truth is the rock-bottom upon which Man's success-structure must be built to withstand the stress of the future.

Truth is the mighty and never-failing constructive element of the individual, while its direct opposite, Deceit, is the mighty and never-failing destructive element. One cannot play between the two and ever hope of living a successful life.

It is true there are men who gain considerable material wealth by methods of deceit. But observe life closely and you will learn that this sort of gain, instead of being a blessing, is a positive curse to those who possess it. The most elegant mansions are often nothing more than walls of brick and stone where misery dwells.

It is amazing how few realize the all-importance of Truth as the prime factor of Successful living. Basically, it is unnatural for man to practice deceit. The great majority of men, deep down in their hearts, hate it, but labor under the terrific false impression that one cannot progress by adhering to the positive Truth at all times. They try to forgive themselves with the feeling that it is impossible to practice absolute Truth in the business world to-day. Christ was the manifestation of Truth, and such immortals as Washington and Lincoln are splendid products of this principle. These men knew the power of Truth and lived it; their lives are shining examples of what Truth can make of man.

“The soul that steers by this unfading star
Needs never other compass, all the far,
Wide waste shall blaze with guiding light; the
rocks
And sirens meet and mock its straining gaze.
Serene from storms and all Life’s battle-shocks,
It shall not veer from any righteous ways.”

Deceit's temptation crossed the paths of all truly great men just as often as it crosses yours and mine in the business world to-day. At first it is no easy matter to adhere to the principle Truth absolutely, but it is the only path that leads to the bigger things and a life worth while.

It is utterly impossible to betray fellow-man, gain material wealth, and live to enjoy that gain. Such action is against Divine law, and some day, in some unexpected manner, if guilty, you pay the inevitable penalty for your disobedience.

The prime principle Truth holds good for every individual regardless of his position in life. Christ, the greatest teacher of all time, says plainly:

"For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"

What good is all worldly wealth if we are miserable at heart? Is this success? No never! What good are all the rich man's possessions if he finds no peace? What has he gained? What can he give in exchange for happiness? On the other hand, the man who has built his success-structure upon Truth, though he possesses one-tenth as much material wealth as the man who built upon the sands of deceit, still has a

thousand times more, for he in reality won the prize both were after:

Peace, Contentment, Happiness.

The one enjoys life from every angle because he is in harmony with Truth and has found complete freedom; while the other has found a greater material gain but lost that which he sought most, and his life is bound fast by the very things it was his object to escape in the beginning. One man lived according to law, the other contrary to it.

Be assured that you are in perfect harmony with Truth, the vital success-quality. Test yourself in the following manner. Pay attention to every word you utter while conversing with those with whom you come in daily contact. If you have been in the habit of speaking lightly, indifferent as to the accuracy of your statements, this will quickly dawn upon you and a reaction will take place; you will then have clearly and consciously discovered the first cause for your lack of success. You have been out of harmony with the fundamental and most important principle of successful living. You cannot build a successful life any more than you can go on living without food, unless you adopt and practice the principle Truth.

Every man's chance is equal. Some of the most noble souls came from the most humble stations of life. It is the habits a man forms in living from day to day which eventually take him to success or failure. Therefore, let us reason in this manner: If the acquiring of good habits must inevitably lead to success and bring the clean pleasures of life, then why retain those which are destructive and bring suffering?

My friend, allow none to confuse you. There is but one way to get the best out of this life, and that is—to live in such a manner as to be in harmony with the Divine Intelligence. There is no other way, and the earlier a man awakes to this fact the less of misery will he know and more of success and happiness will he find.

If you have not until this reading fully realized and understood the prime principle Truth, then it is vital that you realize and understand it now. If it is your desire to elevate yourself positively and permanently, then you must begin with Truth, the rock-bottom, and build therefrom.

Should your occupation demand that you deceive others to earn your daily bread, then you are a slave. Free yourself in Truth. Seek an honorable position and give up the one that will inevitably de-

stroy all the beauty and charm and joy you would otherwise find in living a Truthful life. Such is the law of Truth, and none can change it. You have your choice—every individual has, to live according to those principles which govern success or to live according to those which lead to failure and distress.

Men realize that it is vital to have constructive laws if their city, state, or country is to be a good and prosperous place in which to live, but, strange as it may seem, nevertheless, it is a fact that the great majority of the same men will not realize that their own lives must be governed likewise.

Man is both spiritual and material. The spiritual is that phenomenal part of us, which is our true self upon which the welfare of the mind and body is dependent. Therefore the body is secondary and subject to the state of the spirit. Health to a great degree is a condition of mind. When man is depressed in spirit the body becomes bent and broken, but, on the other hand, a twisted and handicapped form is often carried for many years and made to perform astounding things by a healthy spirit in harmony with the constructive laws of the universe. For example: Helen Keller, despite her terrible affliction of

being born deaf, dumb, and blind, has astonished the world by acquiring a complete education. Another example is that of Michael Dowling, who, after the loss of both legs, one arm, and most of his remaining hand, became a successful journalist and banker. It is said that he was the most cheerful man in the Northwest, and possessed a marvelous capacity for cheering the disheartened.

The body is but the material representation of the spirit:

“Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the spirit of God dwelleth in you?”—*Paul*.

The body is substance gathered about that phenomenal part of us which represents personality and basically desires guidance from the Divine Intelligence from whence it came:

“Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness and *all these things shall be added unto you.*”—*Christ*.

The Divine Intelligence is ever and always desirous of assisting us, but this wonderful help can or will only come if we live in harmony with Truth and other essential principles:

“Ask, and it shall be given you, seek and ye shall find, knock, and it shall be opened unto you.”—*Christ*.

In other words, we must make of ourselves a receptive and positive instrument through which the influence of the Divine Intelligence has free play. Thus you live on the positive side of life, where as otherwise you live on the negative side, which leads ever deeper and deeper into the mist of confusion.

Therefore, fully realize that the principle Truth is paramount in the field of success. With Truth you take the first step to overcome your negative conditions. You become courageous, daring, self-reliant, progressive, and get your first glimpse of real happiness. Let this fact take root in your mind and strengthen it day by day. Make Truth the gem of your personality. Obey it in the smallest detail and the most important occurrence of your daily life.

As you practice this prime principle watch for results; you will have placed yourself in harmony with a Divine law that will work wonders for your benefit, just as sure as the sun's first rays appear in the East.

In Truth you have found freedom, shattered the false and destructive shackles of wrong living, and established harmony with the Divine Intelligence, whose exalted wisdom guides the universe.

“The stars of heaven are free because in amplitude
of liberty their joy is to obey the laws.”

—*William Watson.*

THE GREAT PRINCIPLE—FAITH

"I now leave, not knowing when or whether ever I may return, with a task before me greater than that which rested upon Washington. Without the assistance of that Divine Being who ever attended him, I cannot succeed. With that assistance, I cannot fail."—*From Lincoln's eloquent farewell to his Springfield neighbors, February 11, 1861.* An avowal of a great soul's faith.

FAITH in the Divine promotes self-confidence, and self-confidence is a powerful factor for success; when self-confidence is based upon Divine Faith it is invincible.

Having accepted the prime principle Truth, it is now most necessary that you realize the great principle Faith.

"According to thy Faith be it unto you."—*Christ.*

The spiritual part of your existence is in reality you, and if it lacks Faith in the Divine Intelligence, the source from whence it came, you cannot progress. You must reinforce Truth with Faith for continued progress.

“THY FAITH MUST MAKE THEE STRONG.”

You will fail in the practice of Truth unless you adopt the principle Faith. And why should you refuse to adopt Faith when such men as Lincoln openingly acknowledged it before the world?

In the practice of absolute Truth you will in the beginning experience temporary reverses, but if you will hold fast to Faith in the Divine you will realize later that these temporary reverses were in reality the stepping-stones for greater progress, and that you could not have progressed had they not occurred. The mist clears. You begin to see the light. In other words, the soul now actually experiencing itself in harmony with the Divine thrills the material body, calling it forth to greater action in every nerve and sinew. There comes over you a joy of living the like of which you have never experienced.

“What know we greater than the soul? On God and Godlike men we build our trust.”—*Tennyson*.

All truly great men have realized that mankind cannot progress far without Faith in the Omnipotent. It is said of the immortal Lincoln that he relied solely upon the guidance of the Divine Intelligence in the most critical periods of his life. His splendid soul knew the strength of Faith,

and, like Washington, he trusted in the Divine for wisdom to guide the destinies of a nation.

“For what man is there among you, if his son ask bread will he give him a stone.”—*Christ*.

Without Faith real progress is impossible. Without it you are a field for all negative elements such as Fear, Lack of Confidence, Worry, Confusion, Nervousness, and Poor Health.

Truth and Faith are the two greatest principles in existence; there are others, but these are paramount and must be realized first if you wish to live successfully. You are the master of your destiny, you must decide. Why go on living in opposition to these principles when their adoption will speedily place you on the road to Health, Happiness, and Prosperity.

Faith's direct opposite is Doubt, which at all times leads to Worry. One is positive, the other negative. Faith constructs and leads on to progress, while Worry demoralizes the man and eventually leads him to destruction.

Faith is the missing link between the vast majority of men and the Divine Intelligence. Therefore, the world knows so much misery and despair. Man cannot

walk alone and live successfully. He must possess an immovable Faith to progress and obtain happiness; otherwise he stumbles on, gaining here, losing there, but never finding the one path that leads to the clean and beautiful things.

"I say unto you, if ye have Faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, remove to yonder place: and it shall remove and nothing shall be impossible unto you."—*Christ*.

To progress it is absolutely necessary that you cast Worry from your life; and as Faith is the destroyer of Worry, then, in all sincerity, adopt Faith and Worry will cease to exist. This is the only process. Worry is nothing more than a negative habit which destroys, while Faith is positive and builds. You must weed out the one and plant the other. It is not difficult to do this if you are sincere and possess an intense desire to be elevated into a realm of higher life; and most pleasing of all is the fact that as your Faith grows in strength *you actually experience the growing personal interest of The Divine*. It is then that you laugh at that poor, miserable, drifting, former self. In Faith you will have found strength to face the world unafraid with a new courage. You will see all life in another light. You will find real joy

in the smallest things. You will lose desire for the artificial and seek only that which is genuine. You will pause and listen with delight to every note in the song of a bird. You will stop and with new interest study a blade of grass. And if the day is dark you will know that above the clouds the sun is shining gloriously, that the shadow is but temporary and will most certainly pass away. You will thrill with the keen joy of life, realizing that you are now a conscious part of that sublime Intelligence, which guides the stars through endless space, gives fragrance to the rose, and, because of your Faith, takes a vital interest in your welfare. And all your desires, if they be reasonable and wholesome, in time will be fulfilled.

“For whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have more abundance; but whosoever hath not, from him shall be taken away even that he hath.”—*Christ.*

Worry is a miserable, unnatural state of mind. The very fact that it withers the body proves its destructiveness.

Worry is a clear indication that you lack Faith and are depending entirely or too much upon yourself and material things. In this state you actually doubt the existence of a Divine Intelligence and repel

the very assistance it is possible you are asking for in prayer. This is real confusion, for you are asking the help of One whose existence you really question. If you possess perfect Faith there can be no Doubt, and Worry knows no place in your life. Ponder over this, as it has a tremendous meaning, and is vital for your welfare and happiness.

“You do not have to fight.
You do not have to struggle.
You only have to know.”

My friend, if you will in all sincerity adopt the great principle Faith and live each hour of your life knowing that the Divine, because of your Faith, is ever and always shaping material things of this world for your welfare, then, indeed, you will progress and be happy. Worry will at times come creeping back, but you will crush it as you would a serpent at your feet and calmly go on your way, forgetting that it ever crossed your path in life.

When you reinforce Truth with Faith no material obstacle can long bar your way of progress. When you live contrary to these great principles you inevitably pay the penalty. There is no escape, for such is Law.

Do you now fully realize the absolute

folly of Worry, and do you clearly perceive that it is nothing more than a negative habit which is ever widening the gap between you and the very things your heart desires most? And do you fully realize that Faith is the destroyer of Worry and by adopting it you change the entire mode of your life? If you fully realize these stupendous TRUTHS—then rejoice, for you are no longer on the quicksands of destruction, but at last on the rock-paved way of Progress.

Faith is the link which binds you to the Divine Intelligence; there is none other. By it you are carried on and on to the better things of life and find: "THAT PEACE THAT PASSETH ALL UNDERSTANDING," without which all material gain is as naught.

If in all sincerity you have now realized and adopted the two great principles, Truth and Faith, look forward into the future with joy, for along this road of progress, and none other, will you find the untainted treasures and the real beauties of life.

“All one’s life is Music, if one touch the notes
rightly and in tune.”—*Ruskin*.

THE WHOLESOME PRINCIPLE—LOVE

“Therefore, all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them; for this is the law and the prophets.”—*Christ*.

THE law of LOVE toward fellow-man must be realized and obeyed if we are to continue our way on the road of progressive living.

Think of that most wonderful Love in the heart of the Saviour as he asked the Divine to forgive those who so unmercifully nailed him to the cross! True, Christ was crucified because of the sublime doctrines which He gave to man, and His crucifixion was the most dastardly crime ever committed by the hand of man; yet, Christ's teachings will live forever because they are Divine. (Read “The Crucifixion,” by Frederick Farrar.) Those who crucified Christ thought by so doing they would destroy His doctrines of Truth, Faith, and Love, but how miserably they failed. The most noble characters the world has ever known are the products of these doctrines as laid down by Jesus Christ.

Had Christ surrendered and betrayed the Divine to save His material Self, then truly these wonderful doctrines would have been lost. But Christ so loved his fellow-men that He chose death to have them live. This is Love in its grandest and most supreme manifestation.

“As the Father loved me, so have I loved you: continue ye in my love.

“This is my commandment. That ye love one another, as I have loved you.”—*Christ*.

To love thy neighbor as thyself may seem a difficult thing to do, but have you ever, in all sincerity, tried it? If not, then for your own welfare and happiness do so. You need not tell him, but begin by forgetting his faults, seeking his good qualities only and wishing him well. It is not so easy in the beginning to do this, but be determined and through Faith give Love a trial; and as time passes you will be surprised by the results of your own thoughts. A reaction actually takes place. You will begin to feel bigger, better, happier than you ever felt in all your life. Those things that others did that annoyed you before will hardly receive your attention now, and you will smile where you frowned before—in this manner men grow above men. Having brought yourself above those things

which formerly annoyed, you are no longer a field for their destructive action. And what is most gratifying of all is that any evil act or intention directed toward you *reacts and actually shapes itself for your good*. This may seem strange and unbelievable, but, nevertheless, it is an absolute fact.

Eliminate fault-finding, hatred, and revenge from your heart and you will experience a wonderful transformation of yourself.

“They who forgive most shall be most forgiven.”

All great souls have realized this fact, otherwise they could never have been great. Why go on fault-finding, hating, and seeking revenge when such thoughts and actions retard your progress and make you unhappy?

If weeds of this kind are growing in the garden of your personality uproot them, and by the side of Truth and Faith plant Love so that all may grow and bloom unhampered. It is personality which makes the man. It is that which we see in others which causes us to pause and admire or turn and hurry on our way. Therefore, if you live in accordance with the constructive laws of life your personality shines with a radiance that draws others

toward it. You become magnetic. Men uncertain of themselves, living on the negative side of life, confused by their own disobedience, will seek your counsel and guidance, with the inevitable result that material things must shape themselves for your welfare; and you experience keen joy in the realization that it was by Truth and Faith that you found this ideal sphere, and through the wholesome principle Love you are learning to serve mankind unselfishly.

You may say, "But I am no fault-finder, I do not hate, and never seek revenge." Splendid! But—are you indifferent as to the welfare of others? Do you live for yourself only, leaving a few worthless crumbs in your path for the less fortunate? If so, then there is another weed thriving in the garden of your personality. The weed of Selfishness is, indeed, a nasty growth, and just as destructive as any of the species. This weed, if allowed to grow, will entwine itself about all your material gains and destroy the real joys they would otherwise bring. The selfish have no friends but the selfish.

"MISERY LOVES COMPANY."

Therefore search yourself deeply and sincerely. If there is any sign of this destructive growth, then for your own hap-

piness and success weed it out and plant in its place a genuine interest toward your fellow-men. Reach out here and there, wherever it is possible and within your power—Do Good. It will be returned to you a hundredfold.

“Our Saviour doth plainly witness that there should not be so much as a cup of cold water bestowed without reward.”—*Hooker*.

But do not make the mistake of doing good for the sole purpose of being rewarded. Cultivate a sincere Love for mankind, forget the reward, and it will come all the sooner and without question.

“Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.”—*Christ*.

The law of Love, if practiced, brings astounding results. But it takes a little time, and by degrees only will the realization of this fact come upon you; nevertheless, it is positive, and as time passes, greater and greater will be your reward.

“Little by little the skies grow clear;
Little by little the sun comes near;
Little by little the days smile out,
Gladder and brighter on pain and doubt;
Little by little the seed we sow
Into a beautiful yield will grow.”

"But when thou doest alms let not thy left hand know what thy right hand doeth. That thine alms may be in secret and thy Father which seeth in secret Himself shall reward thee."—*Christ*.

If therefore you do good for the sole purpose of seeking applause, then truly you have your reward, your vanity is satisfied and the thing ends there. But, if you do good for the sole purpose of doing good and keep the deed locked in your heart, the Divine recognizes your sincerity and you are rewarded in a permanent, substantial manner, which leads on to further progress. Because of your genuine Love you are given more abundance—**TO DO MORE GOOD**. Which of the two rewards will you choose?

What a wonderful joy is found in being able to help others. But to be able to help others we must first learn to help ourselves. And as we learn and receive, it is vital for our continued progress—not to desert those less fortunate who are still groping in the dark, but to offer them our hand and guide them into the light which is ours.

"A nameless man, amid a crowd
That thronged the daily mart,
Let fall a word of hope and love
Unstudied, from the heart;
A whisper on the tumult thrown,
A transitory breath—

It raised a brother from the dust.
It saved a soul from death.
O germ! O fount! O word of love!
O thought at random cast!
Ye were but little at the first,
But mighty at the last."

—*Charles Mackay.*

Conscience, Truth, Faith, and Love—
these are the instruments by which mortal
man can find **THE LIGHTED WAY!**

If you feel that you have been wronged
by some one, don't lose your temper and
immediately seek a plan of revenge. Re-
main calm, do not talk of it to others, and
when alone think it over carefully. Listen
to the voice of your Conscience. Possibly
you are partly to blame for the offender's
actions. Never forget that every action on
your part positively creates a reaction.
If, therefore, your Conscience should dic-
tate that you are partly to blame for the of-
fense, then go to the offender, admit your
mistake and nine times out of ten the
wrong will at once right itself. The of-
fender, through admiration of your sin-
cerity, will see you in another light, regret
what he has done, invariably become your
friend, and in the future will often go out
of his way to do you some good turn. Such
is human nature. Is this method not far
better than one of revenge? Try it and
you will be convinced.

On the other hand, should your Conscience satisfy you that the offender is entirely at fault, go to him and explain in kindly terms that you are deeply hurt by his actions, and that if you have done anything at any time which offended him, you did not do it purposely and regret the deed. This sincere attitude on your part will leave him defenseless, and if the offender has a spark of manhood in his make-up, it will be aroused. He will apologize and leave no stone unturned to right the wrong. Again you apply the positive method instead of the negative, destructive method of revenge.

Should the offender in either case assume an arrogant, malicious attitude, do not argue, but smile and calmly leave him. Then try hard to forget the wrong, thinking of it will only make it hurt the more. You did your part according to the wholesome principle Love, and just as sure as day follows night, justice will be your reward and some sort of punishment that of the offender. Feel assured that no offense or good deed escapes that wonderful knowledge of the Divine Intelligence; and that every living man reaps according to that which he has sown. Regardless as to how things may appear on the surface, this is law, and none can escape it.

Speak a cheerful word to all with whom you come in contact, encourage every good deed and thought of fellow-man. Forget the peculiarities of your friends, and love them for their good qualities. Above all, refuse to lend your ear or tongue to slander. It is the most vile and contemptible instrument of wickedness.

“Slander, that worst of poisons, ever finds an easy entrance to ignoble minds.”—*Hervey*.

Mortal life is too short to be embittered by our crude and rash judgment.

“Judge not! but rather in thy heart let gentle pity dwell;
Man’s judgment errs, but there is One who doeth all things well.
Ever throughout the voyage of life, this precept keep in view:
‘Do unto others as thou wouldst that they should do to you.’”

Live! Live by the wholesome principle
Love and you will taste the sweetest fruits of life. Therefore,

“In the very depths of yourself dig a grave, let it be like some forgotten spot to which no path leads; and there, in the eternal silence, bury the wrongs that you have suffered. Your heart will feel as if a weight had fallen from it, and a divine peace will come to abide with you.”—*Charles Wagner*.

One of the richest men in the world, who is doing great good, said recently: "You take the men that start out in life to make a lot of money, they never make very much, ever notice that? Money doesn't mean anything to me; it never did. Anyone that knows me will tell you that." This man was once poor, but to-day has the second largest income in the world.

Do not make gold your god, for if you do there can be but little Love in your heart. This is the pitiful mistake of most men. They stumble o'er life's path in a restless, nerve-racking quest in search of their false god. Whether they succeed in their foolish quest or not, in the end they discover that it was after all a rainbow trail, and that which they really wanted most is nowhere to be found; for the flower of Happiness grows and blossoms by the side of other ways: the ways of Conscience, Truth, Faith, and Love. And what is more, along these ways you will find with little difficulty sufficient treasures to take care of all your needs and clean desires, while another is breaking his life uncovering fool's gold.

Man should be ambitious, but for his ultimate good his ambition must at all times follow the ways of righteousness.

The rainbow trail is stained with the blood-drops of many broken hearts.

"We might with as much reason doubt whether the sun was intended to enlighten the earth, as whether He who has framed the human mind intended to announce righteousness to mankind as a law."—*Blair*.

I shall relate a little experience which illustrates Love's tremendous part in the Divine plan.

One summer morning my attention was called to the pitiful cry of a robin. From a window I observed the bird as it hopped from place to place in an excited manner, calling for help, as it seemed. I went into the yard and just as soon as the robin saw me it flew excitedly about my head increasing its cries. The actions of the robin puzzled me. I had never seen one carry on thus. The bird then hopped about my feet, flew a short distance, and eagerly continued to call. I followed the robin and it actually led me to a place where a number of old boards had been carelessly thrown, and at this spot the bird's call was most incessant. As I moved the boards aside a cat darted past my feet and there I found a young dying robin. As I picked up the little bird the mother, now intensely excited again, flew about my head. I laid the baby bird in the sunlight, hoping that

it might revive. The mother, ever calling, hopped about the little robin, then was joined by its mate. Later realizing, as it seemed, that death had claimed their loved one the birds flew to a nearby tree and for the balance of the day remained there, crying, crying, revealing in a most touching manner the Divine principle Love.

In the tiny heart of the bird God placed Love (some call it instinct), otherwise the bird would not build its nest, feed its young, and so anxiously seek their welfare. Could the little helpless birds thrive, grow, and become a part of the whole unless the old ones fed and guarded them until they could fly alone? Certainly not! Can you conceive that the Divine, who placed Love in the tiny heart of a bird for the continued welfare of that species, would place it in man's heart if it were not meant for his welfare and happiness? For no other reason than happiness and progress has the Divine placed love in the human heart, and by happiness and progress man comes into his own. The greater man's love for fellow-man, the more genuine is his life, and the more genuine a man's life the more successful and happy he lives, because genuineness is the state and character of the Divine.

By helping others we help ourselves.

The man who serves best is most in demand, and to serve best we must be sincere, and sincerity toward fellow-man is Love.

"I came from low down, from the cellar of life, where darkness and terror reign, where man is half beast and life is only a fight for bread. It flows slowly there, in dark streams, but even there gleam pearls of courage, of intelligence, of heroism; even there beauty and Love exist. Everywhere that man is found good is; in tiny particles and invisible roots—but still it is there. All these roots will not perish; some will grow and flourish and bear fruit. I bought dearly the right to believe this; therefore it is mine, my whole life long."—*From Gorky's suppressed novel, "The Peasants."*

Those who ignore the principle Love are surely on the rainbow trail. "Ye shall seek me and not find me." Their fool's gold will never buy that which they seek most, for happiness is found along another road.

"Where there is Faith—there is Love.
Where there is Love—there is Peace.
Where there is Peace—there is Blessing.
Where there is Blessing—there is GOD,
Where GOD—there is no want."

PASS IT ON

Have you had a kindness shown?

Pass it on.

'Twas not given to you alone,

Pass it on.

Let it travel down the years,

Let it wipe another's tears

Till in heaven the deed appears—

Pass it on.

Have you found the heavenly light?

Pass it on.

Souls are groping in the night—

Daylight gone.

Hold thy lighted lamp on high:

Be a star in someone's sky.

He may live who else would die—

Pass it on.

—*Henry Burton.*

THE POTENT PRINCIPLE—ORDER

YOUR life must be organized. The very planets in the heavens disclose this law, and thereby prove that the universe could not be sustained if it were not for the potent principle, ORDER.

In the Divine plan there is no confusion, all things move deliberately for a progressive purpose. Just so it must be in your every-day life if you desire to live on progressively. It is your choice to govern yourself in an orderly way according to the laws of progress, or in an indifferent manner, which leads you ever deeper and deeper into a maze of doubt and confusion.

To reap the full benefits of Conscience, Truth, Faith, and Love it is wise to obey the law of Order. You will agree that no business or organization can go forward contrary to this law. The decay from within weakens the structure and a collapse is inevitable. Just so it is with the individual man, therefore begin at once to set your life in Order.

It is tremendously beneficial to live according to this principle. In so living your vital energies are stored, released at the proper time, and function with most effective force. For example, some men do more and better work in five hours than others do in ten, and in the identical field. Why? Because the poor worker does not understand the law of Order. He does not concentrate. When at work he is dreaming of what he will do when at play, and when at play he worries over what he has failed to accomplish while at work. In this manner he spoils the keen joy and good results he would otherwise obtain from both, by allowing the intercourse of the two.

On the other hand, the man understanding this law allows nothing to interfere with that which is at hand. When he works he works with all sincerity, and when this man plays, ah!—his laughter is good to hear, for it is like that of the boy who knows no care.

Work and play are two mighty conflicting elements—therefore do not allow their intercourse, for it weakens both, taking away the joy and the good that each should bring. Some may say, "My work is pleasure and play for me." Indeed it should be a pleasure, but if it is also play,

then wake up! You are not doing much worth while. Work and play are separate and distinct, but one depends upon the other, and each should have its time and place in a life where progress and happiness is the aim.

If you are dissatisfied with your present occupation and feel that you will never learn to like it, then seek some field of endeavor which strongly appeals to you. Having found it, put your whole self into each day's work, eliminating all other thoughts which might weaken the effectiveness of your efforts. But when the day's work is done, completely forget it. Close the gates of that reservoir and give it a chance to reaccumulate energy. Seek play! Be like the school boy who flings his books in a corner, takes his ball, top, or kite, and with a song on his lips finds a wonderful joy in just being alive. The simplest things teach the greatest lessons.

The law of Order is basically this: Divide your life into two parts, Work and Play, and at no time allow the intercourse of the two. When you work—work; when you play—play! By this method man also retains his youth, for in this way he does not lose interest in work nor in play. To remain youthful it is vital to retain a keen interest in life, and an interesting life is

made up of the right amount of both work and play. Of course, man cannot tramp this earth forever, but in this manner he invariably retains health and lives longer, which is the keenest desire of mind next to success and happiness.

Finding the way of progress through Conscience, Truth, Faith, and Love, is it not also wise to adopt the principle Order?

It is an inspiration to know a youthful man of seventy years or more. Some are amused at this type, but for myself I am delighted and comforted in his presence, knowing that I, too, can be like him, retaining the spirit of youth in spite of the years as they creep slowly but surely upon me. Such a man will tell you that his life has been divided into two parts. Honest work and the wholesome joy of clean play.

Success is not a question of how much knowledge you can cram into your head, neither does it depend upon a college education nor a university training. The majority of successful men have had little or no training of this kind. Success is more the result of a right conception of life and those laws which govern progress.

Man must discover himself and realize that by obeying constructive principles he places himself squarely in the path of progress. And as Order is one of these con-

structive principles it is well that you determine to obey its law and at once proceed to organize your life.

Begin to-night with your plan of organization. Promptly at ten o'clock retire. Once in bed lie squarely upon your back and consciously relax. Then say to yourself with all sincerity: "I am happy, for at last I have discovered myself. Through Conscience I hear the voice Divine. Through Truth I am free. Through Faith I am strong. Through Love I can close my eyes in wholesome sleep like the child at peace with God and man."

From Spring until Fall arise promptly at five o'clock, and let these few words be your mighty prayer:

"Dear God, let this day pass without a blemish to mar the beauty of my soul, which Thou hast cleansed."

Now look out upon the sky and earth and breathe deeply. Should there be a bird near by, listen attentively for a while to its song. Now go through a brief course of exercises.

"The wise for cure on exercise depend,
God never made his work for man to mend."
—*Dryden*.

After exercising prepare your own breakfast (this will depend upon environment); you will, however, enjoy it.

Now comes your precious hour of meditation. The early morning hour has mighty power. At this time the mind is rested, clear, receptive, and with its restored energy quickly solves the most difficult problems. This is the hour in which to make your decisions. It is also an exceptional time for reading. Read the masters, and the biography of men whose lives were a blessing to mankind, and do not overlook the greatest of them all, Jesus Christ. And before the hour closes read again, slowly and carefully, the first chapter of this volume. And in like manner each morning read another until you have gone through the book a dozen times, for it is the product of hard knocks, much thought, sincerity, and actual experience.

Now as other individuals come into the new day and your life, greet them with a cheery "Good-morning" and smile in a way that will make them love you. And then, as you take up your daily task, enter into the work wholeheartedly. Do not be provoked if anyone disturbs you, be courteous, but at the same time allow the person to feel that you are busy. This invariably produces the desired effect, and the disturber, without being offended, leaves you to proceed with your work. Be

patient, for you yourself may have in the past disturbed in a like manner.

When the day's work is done close your desk, lay away your tools or whatever your occupation may be—completely forget it. Those faculties taxed throughout the workday must have rest. When the day's work is done let it be done! Do not dissipate those energies which should be restored for the work of the following day. This is essential for your progress, health, and happiness.

REALIZE IT! BELIEVE IT! DO IT!

There are many ways in finding restful pleasure after working hours. A good book, the companionship of a genuine friend, a chat with your neighbor, a lecture, a clean play, a walk through the fields or wood, a flower, the beauties of a sunset, and when darkest clouds are rolling overhead; learn to admire this mighty element drifting between earth and sky, for it is nothing more than a part of the wondrous whole. There are innumerable things on every side to give us restful joy. It is all in how we live.

I have discovered many little things which bring me much wholesome pleasure. But it has not always been so, for I once followed the rainbow trail. The wounds

have healed, but the scars are still upon my heart. Somehow, above the noise of the tumult I heard the voice of Conscience and it led me on to the way of Truth, Faith, Love, and Order. Would I turn back for all the wealth a false god could offer? I leave it for you to answer.

The way is open for every man, for all. Will you continue on the rainbow trail or take THE LIGHTED WAY?

“Every day is a fresh beginning;
Every day is a world made new;
You who are weary of sorrow and sinning,
Here is a beautiful hope *for you*.”

SENSE OF HUMOR

“Let the howler howl and the growler growl, and the
prowlers prow, and the gee-gaws go it;
Behind the night there is plenty of light, and things
are all right and—I know it.”

WHEN the clouds were blackest and the fate of this the grandest nation of earth hung in the balance, that wonderful man, Abraham Lincoln, in his serene way, would look into the downcast faces all about him, smile and tell a humorous tale. Statesmen were astounded at this homely rail-splitter, who dared smile in the face of apparent disaster. But the tranquil soul of the man knew the power of Faith, knew that above the clouds the sun is perpetually shining; knew that the Divine has never allowed a just cause permanently to go down before an unjust one.

It was the immortal Lincoln's sincere belief that if we live in harmony with Truth, Faith, and Love, and at all times retain our sense of Humor, things would positively work out for our good. In this manner the great Lincoln made patience easy, and reinforced his Faith for every

hour of trial; not many souls have passed through greater trials.

Therefore, when the clouds hide the sunshine for a space and you find yourself in the shadow, *by all means hang on to your sense of Humor, renew your vow of Faith, be patient, and things will positively adjust themselves for your good.*

When life appears to be going against us our first inclination is to frown and become irritable. This state of mind causes confusion and leads to despair, throwing us out of harmony with Faith. We lose the power of receptiveness and are unable to receive the Divine message and strength which would otherwise lead us out of the darkness back into the light.

On the other hand, when things seem all wrong and we hold onto Faith, reinforce it with our sense of Humor, our smile of confidence, we retain our receptive mood and positively (very often swiftly) receive the intelligence to solve those problems confronting us.

The most ridiculous fault of most men is their vanity. Their ego has led them to believe that man is the highest type of intelligence in existence, when in reality man's existence is but a privilege granted by that Intelligence which guides the very planet upon which mankind exists. What

man or group of men could swerve the earth one hand's breadth from its course.

"Hath God not made foolish the wisdom of this world."—*Paul*.

Life, Intelligence, Talents, in fact all that man possesses is the gift of the Divine. Man is a part of the great plan and can only play his part well when he has found harmony with that Intelligence which guides and knows the secret of the whole.

The most amusing character is the man affected by the all-importance of himself. He is the clown of clowns, for he has lost the joy of life, because he believes that without him things could hardly go on, forgetting that the shoes upon his feet, the clothes upon his back, in fact everything with which he comes in contact, even his body, is a product of an earth existing ages before he left his mother's womb and with a "squeal" drew the first breath of life. Such a type, and upon the earth there are many like him, regardless of wealth, power, or position, is to be pitied. Why? Because of his vain self-esteem he has lost his sense of Humor. He is actually afraid to laugh for fear that it might weaken his dignity and lead others to believe that he has no responsibilities and is unimportant.

Can you comprehend this ridiculous and

most false state? Men very often, after winning what they imagine is success, develop such a condition of mind; there are many of this type.

The man who has lost his sense of Humor and can no longer laugh is in a deplorable state, a condition actually bordering on the very edges of insanity and the grave. Therefore it is important, if you wish to live successfully, that you retain always your sense of Humor. Of course, there are times for seriousness and also solemnity, but do not allow any occurrence or condition to so burden your mind that you lose your sense of Humor.

Do not look upon life too seriously. It is only a burden if you make it so. Why does a bird fly to the topmost branches of a tree and sing so joyfully? Think this over. My answer is that the little life, knowing no sham nor make-believe, is in perfect harmony with the Divine plan, and therefore finds what most men strive a lifetime for and never find—"HAPPINESS." In this simple manner God holds before us constantly a great Truth.

You know and will not deny that after a hearty laugh you actually feel refreshed, lighter of spirit, and more vigorous. This proves that laughter is beneficial to both spirit and body, and what is beneficial to

spirit and body is certainly most beneficial to progress. Therefore, as progress and happiness are your basic desires, realize that a sense of Humor is far more helpful than an attitude of ultra seriousness.

Learn to laugh and to laugh often. Look about, observe life, and you will be surprised by the many amusing incidents which occur on every side. You will begin to view mortal existence from a different angle and wonder why so many people go through life with a frown on their faces.

"There's joy a-plenty in this world to fill life's silver cup,

If you'll only keep the corners of your mouth turned up."

Never allow your sense of Humor to offend. A friend may have some amusing peculiarity; we can secretly enjoy this without giving offense and actually love him all the more because this very peculiarity is a part of his personality. For example, we are often amused by the day dreams of a boy, but we do not tell him so, because those very dreams are the boy, the personality we love so well. Man is but a full-grown boy.

Avoid the tragic, the morbid side of life as much as possible. Never read nor listen to a description of crime. By their disobedience of Divine law, men sink to the

lowest planes of life, into the shadows of misery and despair. A criminal mind is the deplorable result of disobedience. By reading or listening to a description of crime you temporarily leave the ideal plane of life and drop to a lower plane. A reaction takes place and the more often this occurs the more difficult it is to retain your equilibrium. This fact is most clearly demonstrated by witnessing a play that deals mostly with crime. You leave the theater in a depressed manner and it takes some time before the ugliness of that which you saw leaves your mind.

Why darken your existence by seeking the shadows, stay in the sunlight of ideal life, for even there an occasional cloud passes, such as the loss of a loved one, a friend, or finding a widow and her children in poverty. Tears that fall for these are the purest gems of Love and will not tend to lower your plane of life but serve to make it more ideal.

Sensational divorces, extravagant hilarities of the idle rich, robberies, murders and the like are all in one pot and should be dumped with the balance of the refuse. The mind is the garden of your soul, keep it clean. Continuous contact with iniquity through reading or in any other manner develops brain cells accordingly,

and not only tends to weaken your sense of Humor, but retards the growth of your personality, thereby holding you back from that which you desire most, clean success and genuine happiness.

Seek ever for the pleasant and elevating things of life. There is always more sunshine than rain; remember this and retain your sense of Humor.

Learn to discriminate between all things which are directly responsible for success or for failure, compare them and then choose those which tend to lead us on to better things, and discard those which are destructive in their action. For instance, the direct opposite of a sense of Humor is a sense of Ultra Seriousness. The first keeps the mind in a healthy mood, simplifies our daily tasks, makes friends for us, brightens our lives generally, and lends to progress and happiness. While the second is a continuous drain on vitality, takes the joy out of work, darkens our outlook upon life, and leads to morbidness. This is a most destructive disease, eventually eating its way into the heart and soul of man.

Therefore view all things which may be responsible for your success or failure in this light.

EXAMPLE:

Construction;	its direct opposite,	Destruction
Truth;	" "	Deceit.
Faith;	" "	Doubt, Worry.
Love;	" "	Hate.
Order;	" "	Indifference, Chaos.
Sense of Humor;	" "	Ultra Serious- ness.
Moderation;	" "	Excess
Use;	" "	Abuse.
Etc.		

In viewing things in this light, the light of comparison, you obtain a clear conception of the factors which oppose each other and go to make up the element of constructiveness and that of destructiveness. You realize fully that on the one side lies Success, while on the other side lies Failure. And as you form this habit of viewing things in this way it becomes an easy matter after a while to quickly choose those of constructiveness, for you readily see that the others are those of destructiveness.

This method, if applied, gives you immense power because by it you fully realize that there are two great elements which control life, and by comparison you gain the wisdom to choose, retaining what is good for your progress and casting aside that which is harmful and destructive. In this manner you acquire a clear concep-

tion of life. You can calmly compare all things and with confidence wisely choose only those which build a personality, that vibrates with power, attracts success, and wins for mortal existence the greatest prize of all, "HAPPINESS."

Now that we see by comparison that a sense of Humor, as well as Truth, Faith, Love, and Order, is a logical requirement for success, is it not folly to go on living day by day in a mood of ultra seriousness? You may say, "But I am not extremely serious;" possibly not, most men are and do not realize it. You may be one of these. Let us see. Look into a mirror and study your face, then ask yourself the following questions:

"Do my eyes sparkle with a genuine joy of life? How often do I hum or whistle some familiar melody? Do I laugh from my heart or just emit a funny noise? Can I tell a good, clean story in a way that others enjoy it? Are my acquaintances desirous of conversing with me or do they merely say, 'Howdy' and pass on? Does the mischief of a neighbor's boy annoy me or bring fond memories of a time in my own life?" These are a few test questions, answer them sincerely and the truth of one of two things will grip you; either you pos-

sess a sense of Humor or you are living in a mood of Ultra Seriousness.

An old man once said, "I have had many troubles in my life, but most of them never happened." Remember this.

Life presents its problems; it would not be worth while otherwise, but an overdose of seriousness magnifies them, and in this manner we are often cowed by an imaginary giant and in the dread of our illusion turn back on the road of progress. Therefore, at all times retain your sense of Humor, have Faith, and you will calmly view life's problems in their true light, unafraid, whereas ultra seriousness gives them the appearance of barriers to block your way, when in reality they are nothing more than the stepping-stones on the road of greater progress.

"Writers of every age have endeavored to show that pleasure is in us and not in the objects offered for our amusement. If the soul be happily disposed, everything becomes capable of offering entertainment, and distress will almost want a name."—*Oliver Goldsmith.*

It is said of Benjamin Franklin:

"His cheerfulness spread around him a perpetual spring. It was unremitting and seemed to be as much the effect of a systematic and salutary exercise of the mind as of its superior organization. His wit was of the first order. It did not show itself

merely in occasional coruscations; but without any effort or force on his part it shed a constant stream of purest light over the whole of his discourse."

Everyone is familiar with the humor of the immortal Lincoln, and of Washington we read:

"He seldom attempted sallies of wit or humor, but no man received more pleasure from an exhibition of them by others."

Chauncy Depew, one of America's foremost men, on his eighty-sixth birthday said:

"The only thing that worries me is whether I shall be a success in life."

Mr. Depew's sense of Humor is so keen people wonder if it is possible for him to be serious. He tells us that both his father and his grandfather died of worry, and that, when a young man, he firmly decided not to allow worry to bring about his destruction.

We are all familiar with the Roosevelt smile and Humor.

As we study the lives of great men we learn that most of them, yes, more than ninety per cent, possessed a keen sense of Humor. Big men know that it holds the balance in the scale of life. A man may have a measure of success without it, but he seldom reaches the heights or remains

there if he does, because without a sense of Humor as a stimulant he falls under the weight of responsibilities which rest upon all those who rise to leadership.

A body of men will do better and more work under the guidance of a man possessing a sense of Humor than they would otherwise do if the same man allowed himself and those under him to be burdened by a sense of Ultra Seriousness.

There is a vast difference between seriousness and Ultra Seriousness. Let us view them in the light of comparison. The first is rational, orderly, and functions to keep the mind properly tuned. The other is irrational, improper, disastrous. Its constant and excessive action evolves a course of decay and the body becomes a fertile field for all the opposing elements of destruction.

In other words, the man, by his wrong conception, actually destroys the joy of life and very often breaks down completely under his self-imposed burden of Ultra Seriousness.

If you saw a man planting thistles and he told you in all sincerity that from them he expected a crop of wheat, you would leave him and say to yourself, "He's a fool!" But, my friend, ponder. Are you sure you are not doing likewise? Remem-

ber always and let this fact sink into your very existence, that you reap just as you sow. This is a positive law and cannot be overcome by any living man. If, therefore, you sincerely desire success, there is but one method and none other. Uproot the weeds of failure, turn the soil with the plow of Truth, and with the same Faith that you would plant a grain of mustard seed plant likewise the seeds of Love, Order, Humor, Friendship, and you will live to enjoy a plentiful harvest.

There is no argument against this theory, because it has been handed down to us by the noblest souls that have ever passed our way.

To have a true friend is a blessing indeed. To be without one is deplorable. The man who possesses all else but lacks the possession of a heart bound in friendship is the poorest of mortals.—*The Author.*

FRIENDSHIP

“‘He is my friend!’ The words
Brought summer and the birds;
And all my winter—time
Thawed into running rhyme
And rippled into song,
Warm, tender, brave, and strong.”

—*Riley.*

THROUGH friendship we gain immeasurably. It is vital to realize how essential is Friendship for progress, happiness, and comfort. But it is most important that we use discretion in selecting our friends, aiming always to gain the friendship of progressive individuals of high ideals. By so doing we add to our own confidence the confidence and assistance of progressive men of moral habits, which results in giving us more strength to hold to our own ideals, and more energy to push forward for the realization of our desires and ambitions.

In other words, a clean, sincere, and progressive friend will understand the sincerity of your purpose, and because of his love for morality, sincerity, and progress, will be desirous of assisting you; for in you

he finds that which is most pleasing to his own personality.

In this manner you add a new force to that of your own, which gives you greater energy and more aggressiveness than you would otherwise possess. This assisting force can be increased according to the number of men of this type whose Friendship you can acquire and hold.

In this world each individual, if he governs himself properly, is a unit of vital force, and a number of such human units, sincerely working for a result, more easily accomplish it. Thus all great and good things have been and are accomplished.

True Friendship is one of the rare gems of life, and its wonderful influence is known to all who have learnt the secret of successful living. Doctor Johnson said:

"No quality will get a man more friends than a sincere admiration of the qualities of others. It indicates generosity of nature, frankness, cordiality, and cheerful recognition of merit."

To cultivate the Friendship of progressive, moral men, one must live Truth, Faith, Love, Order, and always retain one's sense of Humor. Friendship depends upon character. The clean, progressive man does not desire the Friendship of one who is immoral, indifferent, or morbid. He

quickly detects insincerity and knows⁹ that this type desires his Friendship only for a selfish purpose. Neither does he wish the company of one who lives in the shadow and growls at the sunshine.

By little deeds of kindness and a sincere willingness to serve for the good of others a man proves that he is bigger than the average, and by this mode of life he may reveal himself to those whose Friendship he should acquire.

“Scatter thus your seeds of kindness
All enriching as you go—
Leave them. Trust the Harvest-Giver;
He will make each seed to grow.
So, until the happy end,
Your life shall never lack a friend.”

This little poem was the favorite of a most successful man.”

Once you have won the Friendship of clean and progressive men, opportunities for progress frequently present themselves. It is then up to you to remain loyal and continue to live according to those principles which first cleared the way and led you on to the better things of life.

Observe closely and you will discover that progressive men of clean habits invariably associate with men of like habits. For example: Edison, Ford, Burroughs, and Firestone.

Often you will find a gray-haired man of wealth and power and a young man who is just beginning life, very much attached. Why? Personality is the answer. The successful man sees in the youth a sincerity of purpose, a life governing itself in a progressive and moral manner. It is this which each sees in the other, and it is this which has drawn them and holds them together. The sincerity and enthusiasm of the youth is a genuine delight to the successful man of declining years. He loves contact with this type of youth, for it helps him to retain his grip upon all that is now most dear to him—the past—his youth. And the younger man, by close contact with the older and experienced man, adds strength, inspiration, aggressiveness, and opportunity to his life, all of which is certainly most beneficial for his progress.

Men fail to appreciate fully the tremendous value of Friendship. In the first place, they do not realize what it is. If they did there would be more happiness and less despair. True Friendship is a condition between individuals, where each is desirous of the other's well-being, where every success, joy, or sorrow is mutual, and because of its great influence for good creates a state between men, which meets with the highest approval of the Divine,

and therefore takes the form of a direct blessing. But sincerity is the keynote of Friendship, and only those who live according to Truth, Faith, and Love will ever experience this sublime blessing and inexpressible comfort of the soul, without which, regardless of any material gain, life is a failure.

The man who smiles cunningly and says, "The dollar is my best friend," reminds one of a serpent with its mouth open and its poisonous fangs ready to strike. No man can think thus and live in harmony with the Divine, and therefore this type, if he means what he says, will some day awake to find his life as barren as the sun-baked desert of Sahara.

Without its sweet fragrance the honeysuckle would hardly be appreciated: and just as fragrance adds its fascinating charm to the flower, so Friendship adds likewise to life.

It is a great pity that so many men fail to appreciate the strength, the comfort, and the happiness which true Friendship brings. The more clean and progressive friends a man has the less resistance he finds and the easier is his way of progress. Why most men fail to realize this fact is odd indeed. There seems but one answer and it is this: In the first place, all those

living in opposition to Divine law lack the wisdom to grasp this truth; in the second place, by so living they have developed a personality contrary to Truth, Faith, Love, Order, and in their confusion, which is the inevitable result, have lost faith in themselves and mankind generally. Their suspicion and mistrust of all others reacts in a like attitude of others toward them. In short, they lack the essential qualities which are necessary to gain and retain the Friendship of men who are living on a higher plane of life.

There does exist between men who live contrary to law a sham form of Friendship, but observe how quickly it melts into thin air, and how these men betray and desert each other in a time of trial. While on the other hand, the Friendship between moral men grows stronger in their hour of trial. These men, because of their high ideals, never entertain the selfish thoughts of the coward and stand loyally by each other to the end. Any other form of Friendship is but a make-believe, a crude imitation of that which is genuine.

Just as the sunshine brings forth all the beauty and strength and charm from the heart of nature, so likewise true Friendship brings forth all the beauty and strength and charm from the soul of man.

Love is the mother of sincerity, and it is sincerity and sincerity alone which leads men into that sublime and most beautiful realm of genuine Friendship. Search for it in the mists of deceit, if you will, but it is only found upon the heights of ideal life, where the very breath of God adds immeasurably to the growth of all who, by their obedience of His laws, have entered therein.

The full realization of what Friendship means to life should grip you. It should inspire you with an intense desire to live in such a manner that those who have proved their genuineness will admit you into its wholesome realm. Once there no one can predict the measure of your success. You may rise to the very heights of life.

True Friendship has opened the way for the most humble children of Sincerity, and by its added force they rose to greatness. Upon the pages of history there are many examples which reveal this mighty truth.

The man who fully appreciates the power of Friendship, and who through right living establishes it between himself and moral, progressive men, moves forward with that irresistible current which carries on to success.

Aim high for the Friendship you should

acquire; nine-tenths of all big men were poor at one time and possibly started life from a plane lower than your own. But it was their mode of right living which gave them the Friendship of other substantial individuals, without which it would hardly have been possible for them to have reached the heights.

There is a belief among men that a man never has friends until he succeeds, and it is just such a belief that keeps men down. For it is through the channel of Friendship that we are led, or by which we may lead others to the opportunities which are constantly developing on every side of progress.

Men of splendid ability often are utter failures because they lack either the wisdom or are too selfish to make friends. There is another type, who, realizing his ability gives full sway to conceit, has no respect for the views of others, and by this attitude repels every opportunity which would otherwise present itself.

True Friendship between moral men is as broad as the sky, as deep as the sea, as wholesome to the soul of man as the sunshine and the rain is to all of nature.

Friendship is positively a success factor, and very often the key by which the first door to real progress is unlocked. Many

men, handicapped by a lack of education but possessing a full measure of sincerity toward fellow-man, have found much through Friendship they otherwise would not have gained.

To rise we must adopt such a mode of life which will in its action give strength, wisdom, courage, and comfort to the soul; and by heeding Conscience, living Truth, Faith, Love, Order, retaining our sense of Humor, and by acquiring the Friendship of moral, progressive men this is accomplished and we have but one result, SUCCESS.

Therefore, aim always to live right—the higher your ideals the more splendid will be your success and the more complete your happiness. Offer your hand to those groping in the dark, but choose for your friends only those who know the depth and the breadth of sincerity, and, above all, be a Friend in every sense of the word.

“Oh, God! that men would see a little clearer;
Or judge less harshly where they cannot see!
Oh, God! that men would draw a little nearer
To one another! They’d be nearer Thee.”

—*Bracken.*

THE REALIZATION OF NATURE

"I read each misty mountain sign,
I know the voice of wave and pine,
And I am yours, and ye are mine."

—*Whittier.*

HAS the spell of Nature's fascinating charm ever gripped your soul? Do you know that sublime peace which Nature like a great mother-heart offers to the tired children of earth? Have you gained wisdom and strength by losing yourself in the heart of Nature and becoming a part of the wondrous whole? If not, then you should seek Nature, its hills, its fields, its forests, and awake to these things, for they will aid immeasurably the growth of your personality.

Allow me to impress once more, if success and happiness is your great desire, that you must always seek those things which will broaden, strengthen, and add wisdom to your life.

It is a known fact that men who have had the greatest measure of success and did most for mankind were born in the heart of Nature, the children of plain

farmer folk. Early in life, under the spell of Nature's magic influence, these men acquired personalities which later carried them to greatness. In youth Nature taught them the wisdom of Truth, the strength of Faith, and the power of Love.

Every man who is desirous of living a successful life should seek Nature, woo its charms, and profit by its great influence upon the soul for good.

If you live in the heart of a city (it would be far better you found a place in the suburbs) from spring until fall you should spend as much time as possible among the hills or fields beyond the walled-up streets. Traction lines lead to where Nature abounds. Equip yourself with good walking shoes, a kodak, and metal lunch-box (often a splendid meal can be purchased for a reasonable amount in the country, and frequently a delightful Friendship develops in this way). Once you have taken up these trips in the quest of Nature and learn to know the spell of its mystic charm you will begin to feel like a new person, born into a new and better world.

The automobile has done much for the average man. It has brought joy to many hearts and new strength to many tired mothers, who so faithfully toil

all week for those they love. It has made it possible for thousands and thousands of people to come close to Nature, which, without question, will have a most beneficial effect upon future generations.

It should be the aim of every married man to own an automobile of some make and take his family into the open places as often as possible. These little family excursions into Nature have a telling effect upon home life.

It is good for man to occasionally seek Nature alone. Indeed, it is most beneficial and should be done. Dawn is a wonderful, inspiring time. One morning in June the following thoughts came to me very rapidly as I observed Nature responding to the call of day.

The golden dawn the Morn recalls,
And dew from rising Nature falls,
A robin sings his songs in tune
To drifting clouds mid skies of June.
The morning glory opens wide
Its azure cup on every side,
The lilies rise in answer, too,
Of calling Morn and sparkling dew.
A butterfly finds life to-day
And flutters softly on its way.
In wondrous, splendid light of Morn
God lets another day be born.

I had ^{very} never tried writing a poem before,
nor had any intention of writing one that

morning, but suddenly these thoughts came and I put them down and am merely quoting them here to show how Nature's environments affects the mind and causes it to coin thoughts which are wholesome and stimulating.

"As a man thinketh, in his heart so is he." Therefore, to get the best out of life one should always seek those things which inspire and produce salutary and progressive thought.

In the spring and summer months it is immensely beneficial to rise early and behold the wondrous spectacle which Nature stages at dawn, when the heavens are clear. You will observe how the intense blue sky softens and the stars go to rest, and how the fascinating transfiguration goes on changing the wonders of night to the wonders of dawn. How the sky turns softly gray and faint streaks of gold and crimson appear in the east and gradually grow and blend into a solid mass of wondrous light, which makes the dew-drops sparkle like innumerable diamonds. Then, suddenly as it seems, all things take life. We hear the chirp of a bird. It is the commencement of Nature's grand anthem. The song of a robin blends sweetly with the sublime peace, and is soon followed by the bluebird and all the different species, and a great

vocal chorus begins. The whole of Nature seems to ring with gladness, until the blush of dawn melts into the full light of morn. Now the lord of day appears on the horizon and slowly, as he rises, transforms the fascinating spectacle with his wondrous rays of light.

To witness this marvelous sight is most inspiring and will give to the soul of a thinking man an inexpressible strength. He no longer questions the existence of a Divine Intelligence. He gains Faith immeasurably. He feels keenly the wisdom of Truth and the mighty power of Love. And because of a deeper realization of these things he adds tremendously to the power of his personality.

If you are not awake to the wonders of Nature, then you are but half alive.

The more you seek Nature the more you will learn of its delightful secrets, and the less you will desire the make-believe pleasures, originated by man, most of which are detrimental to progress.

Nature is incomparably restful, divinely inspiring, and in its phenomenal way has filled men with such wisdom and courage and brought them to such complete harmony with the Divine that they faced the world single-handed and actually changed the destinies of mankind. Christ is the

most notable example. Why did he go into the wilderness? Because he had worked and lived among men and, possessing the noblest soul that ever came to earth, he saw more clearly and felt more deeply than any individual the misery of men caused by their disobedience to Divine Law. It gripped him to such an extent that he sought solitude to think things over. He went into the wilderness sick at heart, but, resting there on Nature's peaceful bosom, he heard clearly the voice of God; there among the trees and wild flowers he received that Divine wisdom and courage and strength to again face a most wicked world, and in a fearless manner told king and laymen alike that only through Truth, Faith, and Love could they destroy the cancer which was rotting the heart of mankind.

Jesus was a lover of Nature, and it was in the wilderness, surrounded on all sides by Nature's wonderful influence, that he decided upon a course. It was there that he definitely conquered temptation, and it was there in that environment of beauty and peace and strength that his soul became one with God, empowered to go forth with a Wisdom to teach and to do as no man has ever been able to do.

By all means seek Nature often and you

will profit immensely by contact with its innumerable beauties, its pleasing mysteries, its fascinating charm, its wonderful peace. It will take the pallor from your cheek and cause a lustre in your eye. It will make of you a bigger and a better man. It will bring you close to the Divine, and you will acquire more wisdom, more confidence, more strength to live according to those principles which lead to success and happiness.

To assume, as some do, that "Nature is God and not the work of God," is to believe that God is in the onion and the cabbage and goes into the pot with them when we prepare a meal. It is assuming that a wonderful painting is not the work of an artist, but "his living integument." Could a sculptor carve a masterpiece on the face of a granite block from within?

The ancient Magians worshiped the sun. This in my mind is far more logical than to believe that God is in the tulip and the garlic, and not the Creator of them.

Can you bring yourself to believe that the violinist is actually playing in the little box we call a phonograph, when in truth he is not present at all? But you can allow your emotions to be awakened to such an extent by the music which he has created that you actually feel his very presence in

the cabinet. And just so it is with Nature, phenomenally (like the charm of music) we feel the Creator's presence so keenly that we are tempted to believe that Nature is God's living integument when in fact it is no more "His living integument" than the phonograph is that of the musician's.

Therefore, I must take issue with all who claim that Nature is God and not the work of God. If any man can convince me that the phonograph could have been conceived and created in spite of intelligence, then, and only then, will I be ready to believe the non-existence of a Divine Intelligence.

John Burroughs in his miscellaneous notes quotes Huxley:

"What is it that constitutes and makes man what he is?

"What is it but the power of language?"

and Burroughs adds:

"One may say with equal confidence that it is man that makes the language. Man is first and the language follows. You must have man before you can have language."

and to this I will add:

That you must have Intelligence before you can have man or language or nature.

Intelligence is the beginning. To believe that intelligence is the result of things

rather than the beginning of them, robs me of everything and leaves me nothing.

Man is a part of Nature only as far as his material body goes. It is the type of his intelligence which distinguishes him, sets him apart, and makes him superior to all earthly things.

Man's intelligence is of a Divine source. None will deny that it differs vastly from that which might exist in any other living thing on earth. Lord Kelvin says:

"We must pause face to face with the mystery and the miracle of the creation of living creatures. In the coming into existence, or the growth, or the continuance of the combinations presented in the bodies of living things, scientific thought is compelled to accept the idea of Creative Power."

If scientific thought is compelled to accept the idea of a Power which creates life, dare scientific thought deny that that Power is inferior to that which it has created? Is the incandescent light greater than the brain of Edison?

All the centuries have produced no change in the ape. As far back as human knowledge goes, the earth had the identical ape that it has to-day. Although there is a resemblance between man and the Darwin ape—each had its separate origin. No form of evolution could have established that type of intelligence which man pos-

sesses, and which is the insuperable barrier between ape and man and between man and every living, breathing thing on earth. The missing link is an invention of the human imagination to uphold the hypothesis of the Darwin theory. Dealing with facts is scientific; a theory that requires a missing link to uphold it, the existence of which is purely imaginary, is unscientific.

"Whatever the date of his first appearance may be, I think we may fairly contend that Man, as he is represented to us in the Adham of the early chapters of Genesis, appears at a much more recent date and that he received, as a special endowment from his Creator, those faculties that carry with them *moral responsibility*."—Rev. A. Irving, D. Sc., B. A.

The division was the beginning of a higher form of intelligence on earth. God himself drew the line and feel assured no ape has ever crossed it. Possessing this earthly, superior intelligence, is it logical for us to conclude that we are supreme and that no higher form of intelligence could exist? Look into the heavens on a clear night and discover the insignificance of your supremacy.

The vastness of the universe, however, does not bewilder the individual who has found harmony with the Divine Intelligence. His eyes have been opened, and he

realizes that space is but relative. Christ tells us that not even a sparrow shall fall to the ground but that the Divine shall know of it. Think of some friend thousands of miles away, does he seem any smaller? Is he any smaller because of the space which separates him from you? Certainly not! And just so it is with us in the sight of God. We are his children and not mere grains of dust as some would have us believe. Those who realize this truth are not frightened by the colossal greatness of things, they are conscious of that Omnipotent Influence which is ever flowing through and sustaining the whole. They find inexpressible joy, strength, and comfort in the realization that they possess such intelligence, which enables them to grasp this great and most beneficial truth.

“Look around and survey the various beauties of the globe, which Heaven has destined for man, and consider whether a world thus exquisitely framed could be meant for the abode of misery and pain.”—*Johnson*.

It may be difficult for you at first to comprehend the wonderful benefits you will derive by placing yourself often in Nature's environment, for it is a fact that environment is responsible to a great degree for the kind of brain cells which you develop. Environment positively leads

to thought, and brain cells grow accordingly. For this reason we should avoid as much as possible unpleasant environment and seek always that which is beneficial to constructive thought, consequently developing a higher form of intellect, which in its reaction creates a constant desire for progress and stimulates aggressiveness, which is most beneficial for the attainment of our desires and ambitions.

Close contact with Nature will lead to the development of your five senses. It will give you greater power to observe, to hear, to taste, to smell, to feel, all of which intensifies the degree of thought and evolves a mind and personality accordingly. Nature's environment is most advantageous for wholesome, inspiring thought; we learn to think on a higher plane. Its workings are marvelous, for example: the transformation of caterpillar to butterfly. Always carry a pocket glass and, as I have mentioned before, a good camera. The pictures you take while roaming the hills, fields, or forests will become rare possessions.

Nature's influence upon the man who sincerely desires to progress in life is so beneficial that the fact cannot be made too emphatic. Nature's environment positively arouses the best that is in him, very

often awakening wonderful talents which otherwise would have remained dormant; develops moral fiber and in its own mysterious way sets upon him its seal of genuineness. And only those who are genuine at heart will ever attain such success, which results in genuine happiness which, after all, when we look straight through things, is the greatest desire of the soul. No material wealth on earth can buy the smallest measure of that splendid happiness which can only be gained by living in accordance with those principles that govern Divine Law. Daniel Webster was once asked what was the most important thought that had ever occurred to his mind. Passing his hand over his forehead, he answered:

“The most important thought that ever occurred to my mind *was that of my individual responsibility to God.*”

The man who lives thus fears no indictment, knows no want. He is gloriously free because of his unity with the Supreme Intelligence, Who is a most exacting Master, but also the Great Source from which all Love flows.

“Those who will not feel Him in his love will be sure to feel Him in his displeasure.”—*Addison.*

There is no road between,

“For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.”—*Christ*.

and, accordingly, every blessing and every punishment is measured out to you. We can find no fault with the system—it must be so if the human race is to progress and ever reach a state of perfection. Therefore, it is paramount if you desire to live a successful life, to come to a full realization, that Conscience is the Instrument of your soul through which you hear the voice Divine. That Truth, Faith, Love, and Order are the greatest principles in existence. And that Humor, Friendship, and the realization of Nature add immeasurably to the growth of your personality. And that personality is You, and according to its development do you find your sphere in life. Either you rise or you fall. The choice is yours.

“Therefore, whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

“And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.”

“Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you; not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”

Deacidified using the Bookkeeper process.
Neutralizing agent: Magnesium Oxide
Treatment Date: Dec. 2004

PreservationTechnologies

A WORLD LEADER IN PAPER PRESERVATION

111 Thomson Park Drive
Cranberry Township, PA 16066
(724) 779-2111

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 013 611 386 0